

How the Mets can still make the playoffs

IN SPORTS



DIANE LANE, FRANKLY

The "Nights in Rodanthe" star has a way of communicating.

AN INTERVIEW / IN SUNDAY

Sunday Star-Ledger

7EX11+

FINAL EDITION

TODAY'S FORECAST: Mostly cloudy, with a passing shower.

at 7 A.M. 64°

at 2 P.M. 77°

at 7 P.M. 73°

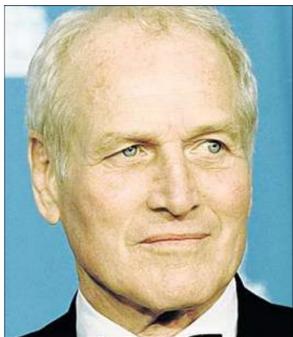
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SEPTEMBER 28, 2008

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THE NEWSPAPER FOR NEW JERSEY



1995 ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE PHOTO
Award-winning actor Paul Newman died Friday at age 83.

Farewell to a true American original

BY STEPHEN WHITTY
STAR-LEDGER STAFF

"What we got here," the Captain said in "Cool Hand Luke," "is failure to communicate."

It was one of the many things the Captain was wrong about.

Paul Newman — who died Friday at age 83 — never had a problem communicating.

He gave us Harper and Hud, Butch Cassidy and Brick, Fast Eddie and the fatally stubborn Luke.

He showed us detectives and cowboys, gunmen and ex-jocks, hustlers and chain-gang cons.

The one thing Paul Newman could always do was communicate.

And for more than 50 years, we were the richer for it.

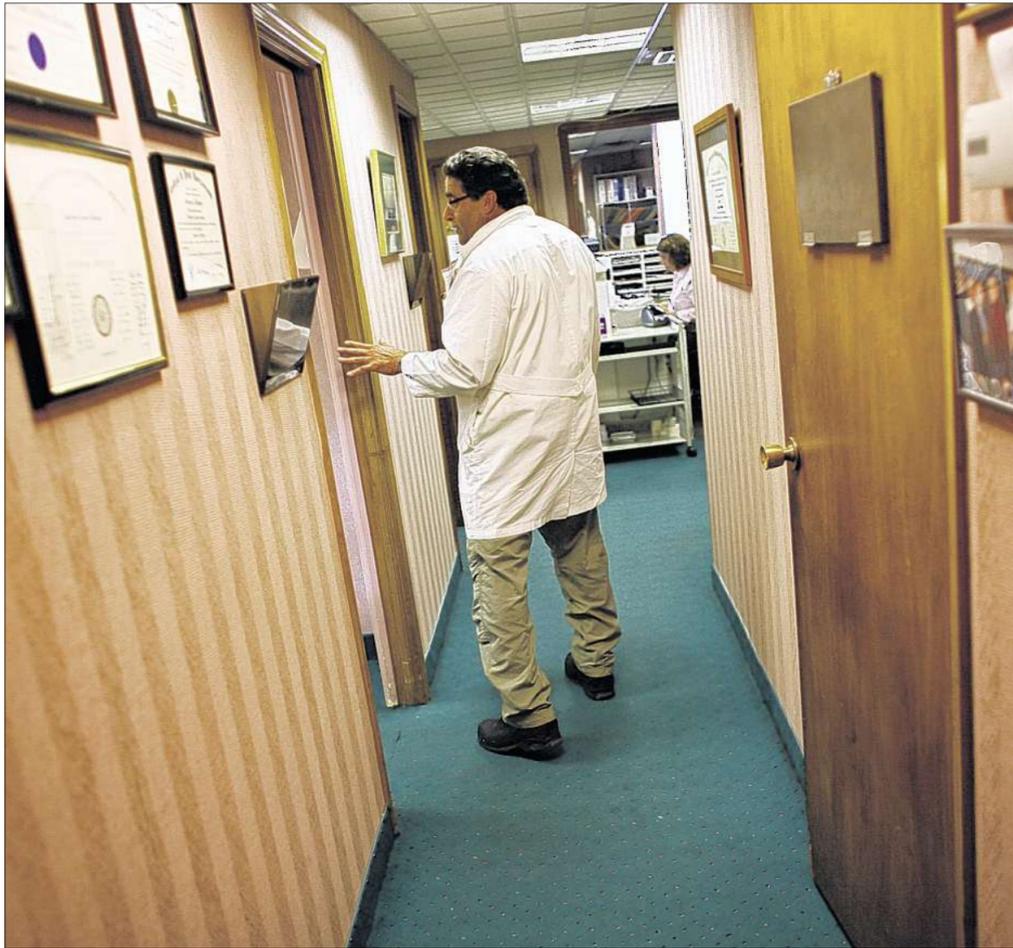
Newman died at his farmhouse near Westport, Conn., after a long battle with cancer, publicist Jeff Sanderson said. He was surrounded by his family and close friends.

The ending was not a surprise. Newman had announced his retirement from acting in 2007, citing his failing faculties. ("You start to lose your memory, you start to lose your confidence, you start to lose your invention. So I think that's pretty much a closed book for me.") There had been rumors about his declining health for years.

Yet almost to the end, Newman brushed aside people's concerns. (Seen leaving a doctor's office, he quipped he "was being treated for

[See **NEWMAN**, Page 12]

HIS PATIENTS ARE HIS PRIMARY CARE



PHOTOS BY NOAH ADDIS/THE STAR-LEDGER
Lawrence Armenti, an internal medicine physician, works recently at his office in Newark's Ironbound. As young doctors increasingly opt to become specialists, some observers predict a crisis in primary care, especially in urban areas.

Family doctor is part of a vanishing breed

BY CAROL ANN CAMPBELL
STAR-LEDGER STAFF

Lawrence Armenti, an internal medicine physician, works in a friendly and well-worn office in the Ironbound section of Newark, right in the neighborhood where he grew up. It's a stone's throw from his old elementary school.

Out back is Armenti's garden, where he cultivates tomatoes, basil and figs. Patients wander in and out and Armenti, a motorcycle-riding bear of a guy, knows their names, greeting some with handshakes, others with slaps on the back. He inquires about children, parents, husbands and wives.

If his patients call at night — and they do — the office answering machine gives them Armenti's cell phone number, which he will answer. No one covers for him during vacations.

"Cell phones are wonderful," he said. Because he is so available to patients, Armenti said few of them turn to the emergency room for earaches, sinus infec-



tions, backaches or other primary care problems.

"I may gently scold someone who tells me they went to the ER for a cold. I say, 'Call me first,'" Armenti said.

Armenti's type of practice was once characteristic of the way most Americans got their health care — one-stop shopping with a doctor who could take care of most of their health problems.

Advocates of primary care say that type of medicine is increasingly being replaced by more specialized, hospital-based care that is often less effective and almost always more expensive.

Some observers predict a crisis in primary care, especially in urban areas, as more young doctors choose to practice in better-paying specialties, such as radiology and dermatology.

"Despite the evidence, we are doing nothing in New Jersey to change the situation," said Jeffrey Brenner, a Camden primary care doctor who studies the issue. "New Jersey is [See **DOCTOR**, Page 18]

Congress cuts deal on bailout

\$700B plan aims to help struggling homeowners

BY CHARLES BABINGTON AND ALAN FRAM
ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — Congressional leaders and the Bush administration reached a tentative deal early today on a landmark bailout of imperiled financial markets whose collapse could plunge the nation into a deep recession.

House Speaker Nancy Pelosi (D-Calif.) announced the \$700 billion accord just after midnight but said it still has to be put on paper.

"We've still got more to do to finalize it, but I think we're there," said Treasury Secretary Henry Paulson, who also participated in the negotiations in the Capitol.

"We worked out everything," said Sen. Judd Gregg (R-N.H.) the chief Senate Republican in the talks. He said the House should be able to vote on it today, and the Senate could take it up today.

The plan calls for the Treasury Department to buy deeply distressed mortgage-backed securities and other bad debts held by banks and other investors.

The money should help troubled lenders make new loans and keep credit lines open. The government would later try to sell the discounted loan packages at the best possible price.

At the insistence of House Republicans, [See **BALLOUT**, Page 11]

Faith in Washington takes another hit. **PAGE 3**

Lessons from the decline of America's easy-credit empire. **IN BUSINESS**

Instruments of finance — and confusion

BY SAM ALI
STAR-LEDGER STAFF

It's hard to believe that anyone could look back on the savings and loan crisis a generation ago and think, "Yeah, those were the good ol' days."

But from a government bailout perspective, that's how a lot of folks are feeling now.

The S&L collapse that stretched from the late 1980s to the early 1990s cost American taxpayers close to \$125 billion (or roughly \$209 billion in today's dollars). That's significantly less than the proposal Congress is working on now, a \$700 billion bailout of Wall Street firms.

Not just that. The foreclosed properties the government acquired during the S&L crisis were much simpler to understand back then — and therefore easier to value and sell.

But when it comes to the current crisis, taxpayers need a college degree in structured finance to understand how individual homeowners on Main Street who miss mortgage payments can produce a ripple through the entire financial system, choke off global credit markets and bring so many of Wall Street's titans to their knees.

On its face, Treasury Secretary Henry Paulson's skeletal three-page document asking for [See **FINANCE**, Page 10]

Debate losers: Voters seeking solutions to fiscal mess

McCain and Obama provided few specifics on the politically perilous issue

BY JOHN FARMER
STAR-LEDGER STAFF

A turbulent weekend has left the country with two unanswered but entangled questions: Who won Friday night's critical presidential debate and what kind of debt relief will Washington provide for Wall Street and millions of mortgage-strapped homeowners?

If the first of three presidential debates was supposed to provide guidance for how to solve the Wall Street mess, it

2008 Campaign

was a flop. Neither John McCain nor Barack Obama provided much insight into what he'd recommend to congressional leaders searching for an agreement on a financial rescue plan.

On that score, both men failed a critical test of presidential qualifications — leadership on a politically risky issue. Maybe they just don't know the answer. But they never admitted as much.

Both insisted that any solution must

"protect the taxpayer and protect the homeowner," as Obama put it, and provide "accountability" and "responsibility" for what caused the market collapse, as McCain emphasized. But when it came to details, they tap-danced furiously.

Who won the debate, a verdict involving judgments on style as well as substance, can't be determined with any certainty this close to the event.

But there's little question that Obama, a Clinton-like policy wonk, was

more comfortable with and quick to respond on domestic economic issues — education, health care, the need to modernize the nation's infrastructure and generate jobs.

McCain, reflecting his long career in the Senate, was more facile handling foreign policy — reeling off the countries he's visited ("I've been to Waziristan") and the foreign leaders ("I've met Saakashvili") he's known.

But their strengths also exposed weaknesses. McCain, for example, made [See **DEBATE**, Page 3]

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DRIVE AWAY IN A FORD HYBRID SUV

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Big victory for Rutgers

Jourdan Brooks runs for three touchdowns in a win over Morgan State that ends coach Greg Schiano's worst start since he took over as coach in 2001.

Adventures in Anchorage

Go trail biking through Alaska's largest city, where reindeer roam and salmon spawn and wildlife and humanity bind together in a semi-urban landscape.

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